

Asst. Director for Special Operations

25 April 1947

Chief, ICAPS

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1. At a luncheon the other day Mr. Christian Ravndal, recently returned counselor to our legation in [REDACTED] asked me why we did not tighten up our operations in Europe and make it a truly "secret service." I asked him what he meant and he replied that our so-called "secret operations" in [REDACTED] were the laughing stock of the city, due to the general knowledge of the operators and their activities. He also stated that our operatives throughout that part of Europe are also commonly known.

2. Mr. Ravndal has now been assigned to the Department of State and I'm sure could find time for a conference with you if you should so desire, although he is very busy indoctrinating himself for his new responsibilities as head of the Foreign Service. If you prefer not to approach him directly, I could make the arrangements for you. Aside from his comments referred to above, I should think that you would desire, if you have not already done so, to make his personal acquaintance in view of his new position.

3. Within the last 48 hours I was also presented with an "unsolicited testimonial", orally, from a Foreign Service Officer who had had close working relations during the war in the foreign field with the old Office of Strategic Services. He told me that he was constantly shocked by the willingness of current employees of OSS to discuss their work and the work of their colleagues with outsiders such as himself, merely because he and others had had a working knowledge of certain OSS activities at an earlier date.

4. This is all admittedly gratuitous but maybe news to you.

DONALD EDGAR

NOTED BY:

*[Handwritten signatures and initials over a set of horizontal lines]*